

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for interfacing with a backup or restore client application on a backup or restore server, the method comprising the computer-executed steps of:

using a software agent for ~~selectively~~ presenting a user using a computer other than the backup or restore server with a graphical or command line ~~generic~~ user interface for performing a dialogue, wherein the interface is created using data structures created by the execution of selected ones of a plurality of functions calls; and

the agent using information acquired in the dialogue for ~~selectively~~ configuring for or performing a backup or restore operation on the backup or restore server, wherein either the ~~selective~~ action of configuring or performing a backup or restore operation is carried out by the agent through communications with an application program interface, wherein the functions calls are part of the application program interface.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein the data structures are shared by more than one application program interface and the agent.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the more than one application program interface include the application program interface that is directed toward configuring a client application through cooperation with the agent for the backup or restore operation.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the more than one application program interface includes the application program interface that is directed toward interfacing with a client application through cooperation with the agent for carrying out the backup or restore operation.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the more than one application program interface include the application program interface that is directed toward browsing a client application through cooperation with the agent for objects to configure for or for carrying out the backup or restore operation.

7. Canceled.

8. Canceled

9.-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) A system comprising:
a data storage system including at least one storage device;

a computer system including a client application in communication with the data storage system, an application program interface, and a software agent for communicating between the client application and a user;

a backup or restore server in communication with the computer system and the data storage system; and

computer-executable logic in communication with the computer system and backup or restore server that enables the method steps of:

using a software agent for ~~selectively~~ presenting a user using a computer other than the backup or restore server with a graphical or command line ~~generic~~ user interface for performing a dialogue, wherein the interface is created using data structures created by the execution of selected ones of a plurality of functions calls; and

the agent using information acquired in the dialogue for selectively configuring for or performing a backup or restore operation on the backup or restore server, wherein either the ~~selective~~ action of configuring or performing a backup or restore operation is carried out by the agent through communications with the application program interface, wherein the functions calls are part of the application program interface.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently amended) The system of claim 13-15, wherein the data structures are shared by more than one application program interface and the agent.

17. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the more than one application program interface include the application program interface that is directed toward configuring a client application through cooperation with the agent for the backup or restore operation.

18. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the more than one application program interface includes the application program interface that is directed toward interfacing with a client application through cooperation with the agent for carrying out the backup or restore operation.

19. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the more than one application program interface include the application program interface that is directed toward browsing a client application through cooperation with the agent for objects to configure for or for carrying out the backup or restore operation.

20. Canceled

21. Canceled

22.-26 (Cancelled)

27. (Previously presented) A program product for use with a data storage system including at least one storage device and a computer system including a client application in communication

with the data storage system and a backup or restore server being and a software agent and an application program interface for communicating between the client application and a user, the product being comprised of:

computer-executable logic ~~contained on~~ provided by a computer-readable medium and which is configured for enabling the following steps:

using a software agent for ~~selectively~~ presenting a user using a computer other than the backup or restore server with a graphical or command line ~~generic~~ user interface for performing a dialogue, wherein the interface is created using data structures created by the execution of selected ones of a plurality of functions calls; and

the agent using information acquired in the dialogue for ~~selectively~~ configuring for or performing a backup or restore operation on the backup or restore server, wherein either the ~~selective~~ action of configuring or performing a backup or restore operation is carried out by the agent through communications with the application program interface , wherein the functions calls are part of the application program interface.

28. (Cancelled)

29. Canceled